For the Northern District of California

| IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT | |
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| FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNI | A |

| JOHN A. JOHNSON, |) No. C 12-01859 EJD (PR) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Petitioner, | ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE |
| VS. | |
| RICK M. HILL, Warden, | |
| Respondent. | |
| |) |

Petitioner, a state prisoner proceeding pro se, filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254, challenging his state conviction. Petitioner has paid the filing fee. (See Docket No. 1.)

BACKGROUND

According to the petition, Petitioner was found guilty by a jury in Alameda County Superior Court of second degree robbery and prior convictions. (Pet. at 2.) Petitioner was sentenced to thirty years to life in state prison. (Id.)

Petitioner appealed his conviction, and the state appellate court affirmed. The state high court denied review in 1997. (Id. at 3.) Petitioner filed state habeas petitions, with the California Supreme Court denying review in 1998.

Petitioner also filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in this Court, which was denied in July 2005. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals denied his petition for review the same year. (<u>Id.</u> at 5.)

Petitioner filed the instant federal habeas petition on April 13, 2012.

DISCUSSION

A. Standard of Review

This court may entertain a petition for a writ of habeas corpus "in behalf of a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court only on the ground that he is in custody in violation of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 2254(a).

It shall "award the writ or issue an order directing the respondent to show cause why the writ should not be granted, unless it appears from the application that the applicant or person detained is not entitled thereto." <u>Id.</u> § 2243.

B. <u>Legal Claims</u>

Petitioner claims that California's Three Strikes Law is being unconstitutionally applied to his prior conviction on various grounds. Liberally construed, his claim is cognizable under § 2254 and merits an answer from Respondent.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and for good cause shown,

- 1. The Clerk shall serve by certified mail a copy of this order and the petition and all attachments thereto on Respondent and Respondent's attorney, the Attorney General of the State of California. The Clerk also shall serve a copy of this order on Petitioner.
- 2. Respondent shall file with the court and serve on petitioner, within **sixty (60) days** of the issuance of this order, an answer conforming in all respects to

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Rule 5 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases, showing cause why a writ of habeas corpus should not be issued. Respondent shall file with the answer and serve on Petitioner a copy of all portions of the state trial record that have been transcribed previously and that are relevant to a determination of the issues presented by the petition.

If Petitioner wishes to respond to the answer, he shall do so by filing a traverse with the Court and serving it on Respondent within thirty (30) days of his receipt of the answer.

- 3. Respondent may file a motion to dismiss on procedural grounds in lieu of an answer, as set forth in the Advisory Committee Notes to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases. If Respondent files such a motion, Petitioner shall file with the Court and serve on Respondent an opposition or statement of nonopposition within **thirty** (30) days of receipt of the motion, and Respondent shall file with the court and serve on Petitioner a reply within **fifteen (15) days** of receipt of any opposition.
- Petitioner is reminded that all communications with the court must be 4. served on Respondent by mailing a true copy of the document to Respondent's counsel. Petitioner must also keep the Court and all parties informed of any change of address.

7/20/2012 DATED:

United States District Judge

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

| JOHN A. JOHNSON, | Case Number: CV12-01859 EJD |
|--|---|
| Petitioner, | CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE |
| v. | |
| RICK M. HILL, Warden, | |
| Respondent. | |
| I, the undersigned, hereby certify Court, Northern District of Califo | that I am an employee in the Office of the Clerk, U.S. District ornia. |
| attached, by placing said copy(ies | , I SERVED a true and correct copy(ies) of the s) in a postage paid envelope addressed to the person(s) aid envelope in the U.S. Mail, or by placing said copy(ies) into e located in the Clerk's office. |
| John A. Johnson E-89817 Folsom State Prison P. O. Box 715071 Folsom, CA 95763 | |
| Dated: 7/20/2012 | |
| | Richard W. Wieking, Clerk |